

HOUSE RESOLUTION 178

By Favors

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Michael Reynaud Geer of Red Bank for his many professional and personal achievements.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Michael Reynaud Geer who, through hard work and determination, has become a highly respected physcian and has devoted his time and expertise to various community organizations throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, born in Durham, North Carolina to Major and Hattie Geer, Dr. Geer began his education in the Durham public school system and attended St. Mark AME Zion Church, where he participated in the choir, usher board, and several youth organizations; and

WHEREAS, he later excelled at Hillside High School, serving as an active member of the band and orchestra and President of the National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, his remarkable high school career earned him a Grant-in-Aid to attend Duke University in 1966; there he majored in Electrical Engineering, served as a member of the marching band and concert band, studied under the famous brass instructor, Paul Bryant, and was inducted into the Delta Mu Tau music honor society due to his advanced trumpeting skills; and

WHEREAS, upon completing his Bachelor of Science, he accepted a position as a system planning engineer for Potomac Electric Power Company in Washington, D.C., before returning to Duke University to obtain a Ph.D in Electrical Engineering; and

WHEREAS, during his graduate studies, Dr. Geer worked part-time at Duke University Hospital, an experience that inspired him to change paths and pursue a medical career; this fateful decision led to his enrollment in the Duke School of Medicine in 1972; and

WHEREAS, to finance his medical studies, Dr. Geer joined the United States Army, through which he completed his internship and residency training at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas; he would continue with the military, earning a fellowship in cardiology in 1981 and serving as a member of the teaching faculty and cardiology consultant to the Health Service Command, until being honorably discharged as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1985; and

WHEREAS, he has since made many invaluable contributions to his field, serving as co-founder and member of Galen Medical Group, medical director of the Erlanger Hypertension Management Center, and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, where he teaches interns and residents in cardiology and has received several "Teacher of the Year" awards; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these roles, Dr. Geer acts as a medical consultant for Novartis Pharmaceutical Company, Forest Pharmaceuticals, Astra Zenical Pharmaceuticals, and Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, and Hypertension, he is also a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, a Fellow of the American Society of Hypertension, and a member of several professional societies, including the American Medical Association, American College of Cardiology, American Society of Hypertension, American Society of Echocardiography, American Heart Association, and the Association of Black Cardiologists; and

WHEREAS, now a resident of Red Bank, Dr. Geer is an active and devout member of Silverdale Baptist Church, where he performs every Sunday in the praise band; he also serves as a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and founder of the AME Health Fair, now known as the Hamilton County Minority Health Fair and the largest health fair in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Geer owes much of his success to the love and support of his family, especially his wife, Teresa Tawzer; his sons, Michael Geer II and Shawn Geer; and his parents and siblings, particular his late brother Dr. Major Geer, Jr., who was an inspiration to all medical professionals; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Geer epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Dr. Michael Geer for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Dr. Michael Reynaud Geer for his many professional accomplishments and his tireless efforts to improve his community and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.